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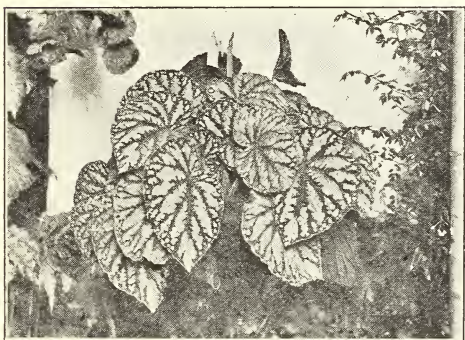


6201  
1923  
JUN 8 - 1923  
Department of Agriculture

LIST OF  
**Begonia**  
Plants *and* Seeds

*In the  
Collection  
of*

Rosecroft Begonia  
Gardens



REX BEGONIA PRESIDENT CARNOT



(SECOND PRINTING)

ALFRED D. ROBINSON,  
Proprietor

POINT LOMA,  
CALIFORNIA

# ROSECROFT

Rosecroft is on Point Loma, the head of land that forms the Northwest boundary of the Bay of San Diego, California, and in consequence of that situation enjoys an all the year round mildness of climate coupled with a moist atmosphere, that permits of the cultivation of the Begonia family with a simple lath protection. In such a shelter as a result of over a quarter of a century of collecting and breeding, Rosecroft grows what competent critics have pronounced much the best exposition of this family in the world. The so-called Tree Begonias attain a height of twenty feet and all sorts flourish.

We offer as an introduction to those who do not already know us, the following letter from Professor L. H. Bailey of Ithaca, N. Y., whose monumental work, *NEW CYCLOPEDIA of AMERICAN HORTICULTURE*, has long been the foundation of every Horticultural Library in the land and who is recognized the world over as an authority in his field.

Dear Mr. Robinson:

San Diego, Feb., 26, 1927.

I wish to express to you my gratitude for the information you have given me on Begonias and for the abundant botanical material. For many years I have been interested in these plants and have regretted that so many of the old collections have disappeared. I was not aware that there existed in the country such a rich, varied, and healthy collection of Begonias as yours, and was astonished when I first saw it. I have now seen it three times and my admiration of it increases. Your work is a real contribution to horticulture and it preserves for us one of the most interesting and decorative groups of plants; and I congratulate you on the satisfaction you experience in the assembling and growing of the many species and varieties.

Sincerely yours, with best wishes,

(Signed) L. H. BAILEY.

Mr. Alfred D. Robinson,  
Point Loma.

We would stress the point that Professor Bailey visited Rosecroft in the months of December, January and February, when most Begonias are in their least attractive condition.

## THIS LIST

While this list is not inclusive of all the Begonias in the Rosecroft Collection, nor claimed to be authoritative as to nomenclature, it has been most carefully prepared and we believe will be found a valuable guide in a field singularly bare of printed information.

## NOMENCLATURE

There is no real authority for reference as to description and titles of the Begonia family, at least we have been unable to find such. Many of the species are now possessed of a number of aliases and the same Begonia is known according to locality or personal preference by a variety of names. Rosecroft assumes no responsibility for the names used in this list, having in many instances acknowledged its own unauthorized titles.

## OUR RESPONSIBILITY

is absolutely limited to supplying good, healthy plants as per this list, and though at its making, every variety included is actually in stock, there are many of which the supply is extremely limited and we shall take no shame and patrons should have no peevement when we write, "Sale stock at present exhausted."

**N. B..** We raise nothing in large quantities, our object being to furnish foundation stock.

Varieties marked with an asterisk (\*) should be ordered with a substitute, as the Sales Stock is limited.

## PRICES

Most of the varieties listed can be supplied at from 35c up to several dollars for large specimens.

The rare kinds start at \$1 up.

The overhead of today makes small accounts unremunerative so we do not desire any mail order for less than \$1.

CULTURAL DIRECTIONS ON LAST PAGE.

## FIBROUS BEGONIAS—Tree Form

Type, Coralline Lucerne

35c, 50c and up, unless otherwise mentioned.

These Begonias are big growers with branching tops, leaves broad at base, long and pointed, blooms in large pendent clusters; though they grow fifteen feet, they bloom from cuttings at less than a foot.

**CORALLINE LUCERNE.** The largest of all, flowers in immense clusters deep pink to red, foliage dark green upper and red under, sometimes spotted.

**PRESIDENT CARNOT.** Similar to LUCERNE but with lighter foliage unspotted, blooms brilliant red and longer in form.

**N. B.** Other names such as Yosemite and Flammarion are often given to this Begonia or others so like it that the difference is not apparent to the average person.

**\*TEUSCHERI.** Similar to Carnot but with more branching habit and red coloring under foliage confined to along veins.

DE LESSEPS. Similar but not so tall a grower and with pink tinted almost white flowers, foliage often quite spotted.

ROSSI. Much lighter foliage with a bronzy cast, flowers a light pink. 50c up.

ARGENTEA GUTTATA. An old very hardy sort, medium grower, very shrubby in habit, foliage dark and heavily silver spotted; blooms, greenish white.

## ROSECROFT NOVELTIES

ORRELL. Seedling of Lucerne, very light green foliage handsomely silver spotted, blooms, cherry red held more erect than the type, a great addition to the class. \$1.00 up.

LUGANO. Another Lucerne seedling branching more freely than its parent, leaves smaller and darker, blooms deep pink produced with great freedom. \$1.00 up.

MANY OTHER SEEDLINGS OF MARKED MERIT

## FIBROUS BEGONIAS—Tree Form

Rubra Type

35c, 50c and up, unless otherwise mentioned

These are variously known as Rubra, Bamboo and Angel Wing. Their growth, tall and vigorous, resembles that of a bamboo, and their long narrow light green leaves are borne so placed on the branch that they resemble the hunched wings of the illustrated Angels of long ago. Blooms, in large pendent clusters.

RUBRA RED. Brilliant scarlet.

RUBRA PINK. Soft pink.

ARGYROSTIGMA. Pink; foliage occasionally spotted.

DECORUS. White with brownish seed pod, sweet scented.

ALBA PERFECTA. Dainty white; foliage a little ruffled of pleasing green.

PICTA ROSEA. Also called the Baby Rubra, rose colored, blooms very freely produced and smaller foliage sometimes spotted.

PICTA ALBA. Narrow small dark foliage heavily spotted with silver, almost black stems and white flowers, smaller grower than Rosea.

## ROSECROFT NOVELTIES

\*SHASTA. A splendid large white, much the finest white yet introduced in this class. Very limited at present. \$2.00 up.

MRS. W. D. HARNEY. White and pink mixture, good grower and blooms large. \$1.00 up.

\*MRS. SCHINKEL. Regular orchid color of Rosea Picta type has met with much favor. \$2.00 up.

RUBRA ODORATA. Deep rose bloom very delightfully scented. \$1.00 up.

RUBRA DIELYTRA. Blooms strongly resembling those of the Bleeding Heart, most charming. \$1.00 up.

MARTHA. Medium grower, leaves with sawtooth lobe, small blooms of deep red, a decided addition to the medium class. \$1.00 up.

JINNIE MAY. A dwarf not more than three feet, laurel like leaves, small dainty red blooms. \$1.00 up.

MANY MORE SEEDLINGS IN THIS RUBRA GROUP IN A BEWILDERING VARIETY OF SHADES IN RED, PINK, ROSE TINTED AND WHITE, FROM OUR OWN SEED AND ALSO FROM SOME IMPORTED FROM MEXICO.

## OTHER TALL FORMS

35c, 50c and up, unless otherwise priced

MULTIFLORA ROSEA. Also called FLORIBUNDA ROSEA, small glossy foliage carried close to stem, pendent fuchsialike blooms of delicate pink, always in flower and hardy.

FUCHSIOIDES COCCINEA. A similar form but blooms transparent scarlet. Mexico calls it "CORAZON DE JESU."

COMPTA. Tall slender grower with long pointed wavy leaves, greyish green with conspicuous grey center following mid rib, small white blooms in large close cluster. 50c and up.

ZEBRINA. Also ANGULARIS from its square stem, similar to Compta but grey markings much less pronounced, a much more vigorous grower.

## FIBROUS BEGONIAS—Intermediate Growth

35, 50c and up, unless otherwise priced

PREUSEN. Very bushy upright habit, small long leaves and blooms of pink tint scattered through foliage, good at any stage.

SACHSEN. Similar to Preusen but smaller grower with darker bronzy foliage and coppery red blooms.

WETTSTEINI. A branching small tree type with wavy green foliage and brilliant pendent bunches of bloom, the most brilliant of all the reds.

INCARNATA. Upright grower with long green pointed foliage and pink flowers in numerous clusters. Winter bloomer.

SYLVIA. A seedling of Incarnata with wavy foliage and dainty pink flowers; likes shade.

MARGUERITE. Upright bush form with long hairy foliage and tinted pink flowers, an old reliable.

DIGSWELLIANA. Bushy with crinkly foliage and tinted pink blooms.

ROBUSTA. Small ruddy leaves and red stems; blooms pink to red, grows with fountain effect, continually sending up new shoots; very hardy and desirable.

WASHINGTON ST. An unnamed seedling found in a San Diego garden, with long green leaves and white blooms in bunches produced in winter; quite individual.

ODORATA ALBA. Round, glossy foliage with large bunches of delicately scented white flowers continuously produced. One of the very best and makes a large spreading bush.

ODORATA ROSEA. A pink form of Alba not nearly so vigorous. (This is called Nitida in some lists.)

UNDINE. A Rosecroft seedling of Odorata Alba with pinky blooms; both blooms and foliage waved. Medium grower and bushes nicely. 50c up.

ROSEA GIGANTEA. Large, round glossy foliage with a red spot where the stem joins; blooms a deep rose to red; produced in winter in large bunches held upright; one of the most handsome of the Begonias, likes a cool shady location. \$1.00 up.

\*LOBATA VARIEGATA. A somewhat difficult doer with serrated spotted foliage and white blooms.

## LOW GROWING BRANCHING TYPE

35c, 50c, unless otherwise priced.

WELTONIENSIS ROSEA. Semi-tuberous with pointed serrated small leaves, red stems and pink flowers, makes fine pot specimens; dormant in winter.

WELTONIENSIS ALBA. Similar to above with white blooms and larger grower.

McBETHII. Also commonly called Dewdrop and Oakleaf, semituberous, fine ferny foliage, white flowers, bushy in habit.

RICHARDSONI. Smiliar to McBethii but foliage longer and more ferny; likes shade, flowers white.

SCHNITZERI. An orange flowered form of these semi-tuberous, quite rare. (This is only a local name correct one not known.)



FOLIOSA. Very small leaved, foliage grows flat like a fern, flowers quite miniature, white borne in singles pendent. Takes the place of a fern in grouping.

BERTHA VON LOTHRINGEN. Another possibly incorrect name. It has also been named to us as Pearl de Lorraine. A thick stemmed kind with smooth medium green foliage veined peculiarly in chocolate; winter bloomer, pink shaded. 50c.

SANDERSONI. A low bushy grower with light green serrated foliage, blooms, a brilliant scarlet. Winter bloomer.

NITIDA. A wonderful free blooming tinted white, about two feet, flowers very dainty borne in large upright clusters, always in bloom; a splendid pot plant. (The description in some lists of Nitida is that we give to Odorata Rosea.)

LUXURIANT or OLBIA. A small grower with woody stems, leaves a beautiful velvet green, shaped like the Lucerne group but much smaller, blooms greeny white in pendent clusters. Likes shade.

\*BERTHA DE CHATEAU ROCHER, also called Ascotiensis and Corbeille de Feu. They may be separate varieties but they don't look like it. Upright grower with leaves like Floribunda, brilliant coral red blooms, makes fine specimen when well grown.

## THICK STEMMED AND PROCUMBENT TYPES

50c and up, unless otherwise priced.

VERSCHAFELTI. Thick stem, very large green lobed leaves on long fleshy stalks, blooms in huge upright pink panicles borne well above foliage, very early flowering.

\*ECUADOR SPECIES. A native of Ecuador, raised from seed sent up from there; horticultural name, if any, not known; very thick upright stem, leaves large almost palmate, green with inconspicuous white markings towards points when young; blooms crepy white to pink in clusters on long erect stems. Deciduous. \$1.00.

GILSONI. The only double in this class and it is more crested than double, thick stem, good branching habit, dark green leaves pointed and fluted, light pink blooms in large clusters; early. \$1.00.

VITIFOLIA. This is the name given us for a plant raised from seed sent up from Mexico. The leaves are shiny green above rusty under, large and irregular heart shaped tinted pink small flowers in large clusters. Early. \$1.00.

**RICINAFOLIA.** Sends up enormous bronzy leaves on long thick hairy stems from a procumbent fleshy root stock. Bloom stalks often four feet long with bunches of pink flowers a foot and a half across; wonderful tub plant and very hardy. \$1.00.

**MRS. MARY PEACE.** A seedling of Ricinafolia with palmate leaves of very dark green ruffled on edges; blooms pale pink. \$2.00.

**\*CAROLINAEFOLIA.** Similar habit, but with perfectly palmate leaves of light green, each finger on a separate stem, blooms pink, a native species from Mexico. \$1.00.

**RUBELLA.** A medium grower of this type with leaves sprinkled with ruddy spots and very hairy; blooms pink. \$1.00.

**SUNDERBRUCKII.** Called also Ricinafolia and Star; foliage palmate, dark almost black, striped with lustrous green, blooms pinky; early.

**FEASTII.** The Beefsteak Begonia, also called Edmondsi, very procumbent in habit, leaves dark green upper and red under, thick, shiny and round like a water lily; blooms light pink in clusters well above foliage; admirable for baskets and mounds. Early.

**BUNCHII.** A ruffled and crested form of Feastii.

**MRS. TOWNSEND.** A very dark leaved sort in this group with a few points on foliage, blooms the largest of any, pink with a chocolate cast.

**MANICATA.** Light green foliage, heart shaped with collars of red hairs on stems; blooms rose; very dainty.

**MANICATA AUREA.** Similar to last but with yellow and white blotches on foliage.

**SANGUINEA.** A creeping or climbing sort with dark olive leathery foliage quite red under and stems; blooms white. \$1.00.

**\*NELUMBIFOLIA or MACROPHYLLA.** Large peltate leaves from a short rhizome; blooms small, white to pink. \$1.00.

**TEMPLINI.** A thick stemmed branching sort with large wavy leaves blotched with white, yellow and red; blooms pink in clusters; very early, might be called winter bloomer; makes very handsome large specimens.

**JESSIE.** Similar to above but with plain leaves with ruddy overcast; also called Ne Plus Ultra.

**ULMAFOLIA.** Fleshy stemmed with rough, thick elm-like leaves; blooms small white in clusters.

## SCHARFFIANA GROUP

50c and up, unless otherwise priced.

**SCHARFFIANA.** A somewhat straggly grower with large hairy, thick, round leaves, dark green above dark red under; blooms, white tinted rose borne on long branching stems like a pair of horns. The new growth emerges from a peculiar hairy hood-like sheath of greeny white and cottony appearance; requires warmth. \$1.00.

**HAAGEANA.** A derivative of Scharffiana more upright bushy grower and hardier, leaves more pointed, flowers, white, tinted pink, pendent in large clusters; like purses in bud; winter bloomer.

**DUCHARTREI.** Very similar to Haageana but with more pointed foliage lighter green larger grower.

**THURSTONI.** Similar in habit but foliage more round and very smooth shiny and darker, blooms pink, borne erect. There is a variation known as the Hairy Thurstoni which the name describes.

**VIAUDE.** Seedling of Scharffiana with similar blooms but long pointed leaf and vigorous grower and hardier.

**METALLICA.** An upright grower with handsome dark veined lustrous foliage, quite large blooms, light pink in clusters. There are many seedlings of this with slight variations.

**CYPRAEA.** Somewhat similar but with rounder foliage with one distinct point, also creped and lighter green; quite generally called Cuphea.

**PRUNIFOLIA.** A Rosecroft seedling of Viaude with large hairy leaves of a deep plum under; blooms white in huge pendent clusters. \$1.00.

## ODD AND RARE KINDS

\***DIADEMA.** An upright grower with palmate serrated foliage heavily silver spotted—an old variety but rather difficult to grow. \$1.00.

\***PALMATA.** Large palmate foliage striped with silver, cane-like growth; very striking. \$2.00.

**PALMIFOLIA.** Large lobed green leaves on a fleshy stem, blooms white, in clusters. \$1.00.

**PELTATA.** Low grower with peltate leaves, leaves and stems covered with a white fuzz, blooms white in clusters, quite unique. \$1.00.

\***LUXURIANS.** This has also been named Sessilifolia but Luxurians is its name both at Kew and the Royal Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh. An upright grower almost a climber with huge palmate leaves carried like an umbrella, each section narrow and thin and at center of leaf a quite small ruffle of auxiliary leaves, blooms small white, in clusters. \$5.00.

SCOTCH LUXURIANS. A perfectly unwarranted title for lack of any other. A rapid growing, branching sort, with large soft grey green leaves and white flowers in panicles. Excellent for filling under tall growers. 50c.

## CLIMBING OR SCANDENT DIVISION

\*GLAUCOPHYLLA SCANDENS. A scandent variety with pointed green leaves, blooms pink shaded, very similar to those of *Quisqualis Indica*; wonderful basket plant; now very scarce. \$2.00.

MARJORIE DAW. A seedling of Mrs. Shepherd of Ventura, a much branched grower needing support; good for pillars or trellises, foliage green and handsome. blooms in large pendent clusters of rosy red. 50c and up.

## REX BEGONIAS

50c and up.

Also called Painted-leaf from their vari-colored foliage. Colors taken more or less carefully from Ridgways.

### Large-Leaved Typical Kinds

PRESIDENT CARNOT. Round leaf, dark greenish olive with raised blotches of silver, very contrasty; an old favorite. \$1.00.

EMERALD GIANT. Large typical leaf, dusky olive green with pea green zone.

LESOUDSII. Very large maple form of leaf, dusky olive green irregularly zoned and spotted with pea green. One of the hardiest.

SILVER KING. Maple leaf of slate olive with silvery sheen.

LORD PALMERSTON. Typical leaf, olivaceous black with large green zone and dark olive border stipuled with sage green.

EDOUARD ERDODY. Round leaf of gnaphalium green with small palmate center of olivaceous black small ivy green markings around edge.

QUEEN VICTORIA. Typical leaf, center and border olivaceous black heavily stipuled with pea green; zone pea green.

MRS. JOHN B. (?). Very large leaf of gnaphalium green with small olive palmate center, an irregular border of dark cress green with roundish spots of green with a red hair in the center of each.

MAGNIFICA or KING OF THE REX. An immense leaf of olivaceous black with indistinct varying zone made by an overcasting of gnaphalium green.

ROI FERD MAJOR. Very large long pointed leaf of pea green with palmate center of olivaceous black, edge color indented with markings of dark cress green.

RAJAH. Rather long shaped leaf with lustrous black center overcast with purple, zone gnaphalium green overcast with Daphne pink shading from center out, pink spots spilling into center and green spots into a border of dark dull yellow green edged with purplish black. \$1.00.

K. O. SESSIONS (Rosecroft). Maple shaped center, zone quite regular greenish glaucous, border forest green, leaf long and pointed on strong tall stems; exceptional grower. \$1.00.

POINCARÉ (Rosecroft). Ground color gnaphalium green, long fingered center markings, blackish green gray, irregular border leaf green darkening to edge, very striking and tremendous doer. \$1.00.

\*CLEMENCEAU (Rosecroft). Large round creped leaf, body hellebore green, narrow fuscous edge quite ruffled, slightly palmate center olivaceous black, the whole blotched irregularly with tea green, similar in habit to Carnot of which it is a seedling. \$1.00.

## REX—Medium Size Leaves

MODESTY. Irregular center olivaceous black, zone of court grey flushed with Daphne pink, border greyish olive shading to olivaceous black, spotted with Daphne pink.

MRS. FREVERT (Rosecroft). Maple leaf center and border dark olive irregular zone light elm green, compact grower.

\*LOUISE CLOSSON. Center and border dusky brown, irregular zone in raised blotches of Daphne Red.

LUCY CLOSSON. Similar to Louise but hardier grower, leaves smaller and smoother and showing a green tinge in the dark.

EMERAUD. Smooth leaf carrying two or three points, center olivaceous black zone forest green edge fuscous; one of the best in the dark class.

QUEEN OF HANOVER. Roundish leaf, very rough center, olivaceous black zone, pea green edge, dark ivy green, whole leaf and stem covered with corinthian pink hairs.

\*VELOURS (Rosecroft). Slightly creped leaf of velvety brownish olive, very upright in growth and individual. \$1.00.

MOONBEAM (Rosecroft). Typical pointed leaf of gnaphalium green with small irregular indentations on edge and center of deep slate olive, strong silvery sheen the lightest of all the Rexes we know. \$1.00.

LOIS (Rosecroft): Ground color dark ivy green blotched and spotted with sage green, a single fuscous hair in each small spot and along veins and edge giving a rusty effect; makes wonderful specimens with many leaves. \$1.00.

EMPEROR. Leaf papillary and hairy, pea green lighter hairs giving a bluish grey effect, center and edge flushed with deep purplish vinaceous.

CHRETIEN. Soft and shiny leaf, center blackish brown, zone Indian lake, border blackish brown, color quite variable.

CRIMSON GLOW. Leaf finely stipuled with pea green on a brighter green, suffused center and border and on old leaves all over, with Dahlia purple; strong metallic sheen. \$1.00.

SILVER QUEEN. Ground color gnaphalium green, palmate center and edges olive brown, grown in strong light a magenta overcast appears.

## REX—Small Leaves

IMPERIALIS SMARAGDINA. Plush-like round leaf of cedar green. A delicate small plant requiring greenhouse care. \$1.00.

SMARAGDINA MACULATA. Similar to Smaragdina in habit but with heavy blotches of darker green on leaves. \$1.00.

ILLUSTRATA. Small compact grower; leaf round with one point, rough and crepy tea green sunken markings along veinings that make a regular network pattern. Excellent for small specimen on border effect. 50c.

## REX—Helix or Spiralled Type

With the lobe of leaf curled round like a snail's shell.

\$1.00, \$2.00 and up.

COUNT ADRIEN ERDODY. Beautifully spiralled, small palmate center greenish olive; body of leaf greenish glaucous fretted pattern on edge of emerald green shading to greenish olive.

COUNTESS LOUISE ERDODY. Lobes very twisted and whole leaf in deep folds; body tea green, narrow markings of veining in forest green, edge flushed purple, the best known of all the Helix.

IMPROVED ERDODY. Leaf ruffled and spiralled two or three folds, palmate center and border olivaceous black, zone pea green.

\*CAPT. NEMO (a name given by Rosecroft lacking any other). Leaf ruffled and spiralled with one or more deep folds, small center dull greenish black, main field pea green, well defined border of Varleys green edged with dark olive.



# Rosecroft Begonia Gardens

*Alfred D. Robinson, Proprietor*

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## TUBER AND SEED LIST FOR 1928

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San Diego, Feb. 26, 1927.

Dear Mr. Robinson:

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Sincerely yours, with best wishes,

(Signed) L. H. BAILEY.

Mr. Alfred D. Robinson,  
Point Loma.

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ROSECROFT BEGONIA GARDENS is pleased to offer herein the largest and most varied List of Tubers and seeds of Begonias in its history, and it believes it to be the most comprehensive ever submitted anywhere or at any time.

The seed is all this season's crop, gathered pod by pod from plants grown in the open with only a lath protection. Meticulous care has been exercised in gathering and caring for these seeds, but no warranty or guarantee is issued with them because so many factors outside of our control intervene between the seed and the plant.

For detailed description of varieties in this list consult our catalogue.

## LIST OF DRY TUBERS

### REGULARS—

SINGLES in mixed colors, \$3 per dozen.

DOUBLES in mixed colors, \$5 per dozen.

FRILLED in mixed colors, \$3 per dozen.

CRISPA MARGINATA, \$5 per dozen.

NARCISSIFLORA (Daffodil flowering), \$2 each.

LLOYDII or HANGING BASKET mixed, \$3 per dozen.

In separate colors, Dark Red, Light Red, Light Pink, Dark Pink, Shrimp, and Cream shades, \$5 per dozen.

Rosette Types in mixed colors, \$3 per dozen.

LADY BLANCHE (White), \$2.50 each.

MARTIANA (Pink Hollyhock), 50c each.

EVANSIANA (Pink), 25c each.

SCHNITZERI (Orange), 50c each.

McBETHII (White), 35c each.

RICHARDSONI (White), 35c each.

WELTONIENSIS ROSEA, 35c each.

WELTONIENSIS ALBA, 35c each.

FROEBELLI single scarlet, winter bloomer from Ecuador, 50c each.

## LIST OF BEGONIA SEED

50c per packet, unless otherwise stated.

### TUBEROUS

REGULAR TUBEROUS in Singles mixed.

Doubles mixed.

Frilled mixed.

Crispa Marginata.

Narcissiflora, \$1 per packet.

LLOYDII in mixed colors, \$1 per packet.

SCHNITZERI.

McBETHII.

RICHARDSONI.

MARTIANA.



## LIST OF BEGONIA SEEDS—Continued

### FIBROUS

50c per packet.

#### TALL GROWING—

CORALLINE LUCERNE (Deep Pink to Red).  
LUGANO (Deep Pink).  
ROSSI (Light Pink).  
RUBRA RED.  
RUBRA PINK.  
RUBRA ROSECREFT SEEDLINGS mixed.  
PICTA ROSEA.  
FUCHSIOIDES (Scarlet).  
COMPTA (White).  
ZEBRINA (White).

#### MEDIUM GROWING—

ODORATA ALBA (White).  
CYPREA (Light Pink).  
SCOTCH LUXURIANS (not in our catalogue).  
Rapid grower, from seed from Scotland,  
with large plain light green leaves and  
bunches of white flowers, excellent for a  
filler.

#### LOW GROWING—

INCARNATA (Pink).  
DIGSWELLIANA (Light Pink).  
ROBUSTA (Rose Red).  
FOLIOSA (Tiny White).  
BERTHA VON LOTHRINGEN (Pink).  
RICINAFOLIA (Pink).  
CAROLINAEFOLIA (Pink).

### BEDDING TYPE

50c per packet.

SEASHELL (White-edged Pink).  
TANAGER (White-edged Orange).  
MATADOR (Flame).  
MERMAID (A Dwarf Seashell).  
ROSABELLE (Mallow Pink).  
HELEN BOFINGER (Dwarf White).  
CHRISTMAS CHEER (Large-Flowered Red).

### REX

\$1 per packet.

Mixed from Rosecrofts immense collection.

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Planting Directions on every packet.

## ROSECREFT BEGONIA GARDENS

Point Loma, California.

ALFRED D. ROBINSON, Proprietor.



\*BROOKE (another Rosecroft unauthorized title). Large leaf with deep folds, edge ruffled and lobes spiralled, small center and irregular indented border of olivaceous black, main field gnaphalium green. Very smooth texture.

\*PRINCESS OF HANOVER. Both lobes spiralled, whole leaf very papillary, center olivaceous black, zone pea green, border dark ivy green.

## **REX—Discolor or Branching**

50c and up.

ARGENTEA ERECTA. Grows with straggling stems needing support or fits in a hanging basket, leaves small, very palmate center of dark yellow green, rest of leaf pea green that in strong light is flushed with vinaceous purple.

MRS. MOON. Large palmate center dusky green gray, heavily stipuled with andover green, large indented markings around edge, dark cress green stipuled with andover green. Makes a splendid clump in the ground.

ROBERT GEORGE. Maple leaf palmate center of olivaceous black, field slate olive, indented edge markings dark ivy green, spotted with slate olive; excellent upright grower.

MRS. A. G. SHEPHERD. More ivy than maple leaf, small center of dark olive, indented edge of dark greenish olive, field tea green.

ADRIEN SCHMITT. Also known by numerous aliases, Beauty of Richmond, etc. Many pointed leaf, ground color at center olivaceous black lightening to dark cress green at edges; whole leaf blotched with gnaphalium green; very striking.

\*BERTHA MCGREGOR. Most majestic upright grower, leaves large, almost palmate center end edges olivaceous black, large long blotches of tea green and irregular spots running out at ends of points. Unfortunately the stock now obtainable is none too robust, but once had a specimen five feet high, much branched and covered with perfect leaves.

N. B. Rosecroft has done a great deal of work with the Rexes and has a large and varied lot of seedlings showing quite new markings, habit and color, among them several of the Helix type.

## **TUBEROUS SECTION**

In the regular tuberous Rosecroft grows

SINGLES in a whole range of color.

DOUBLES in many colors and styles.

FRILLED in all the tuberous colorings.

FIMBRIATA PLENA. Very full double blooms with fringed petals like carnations; many colors.

CRISPA MARGINATA. Singles with crimped petals in yellow with red margin and white with carmine edge.

NARCISSIFLORA. Male blooms formed like a single daffodil, in yellow, pink, red and shaded.

LLOYDII or hanging basket drooping habit with blooms in singles, doubles, cactus, rosette and button types and an immense range of color. Rosecroft has the reputation of possessing from its own raising the finest and most varied strain of this type anywhere and its double white Lady Blanche has achieved an international reputation. Tubers for sale in season. A good stock of Lloydii mixed at \$5 00 up per dozen.

MARTIANA GRACILIS. A tuberous from Mexico resembling a small single Hollyhock. Requires light.

FRÆBELLI. A winter blooming tuberous from Ecuador with brilliant single scarlet blooms.

EVANSIANA. The easiest grown of all the tuberous, woody branching stems and blooms in showers of light pink. One of the oldest and worthy of more attention.

## BEDDING TYPE

25c

These are low growing many flowered sorts used very widely and freely for outdoor bedding; they also make wonderful specimens if given the opportunity. Rosecroft grows most of the well-known ones except those requiring greenhouse care, usually called winter bloomers, such as Lorraine, Cincinnati, Melior, etc., but lists here only the less well-known and those of its own introduction.

SEASHELL. Introduced by Mrs. Shepherd of Ventura, very vigorous grower, taller than the type, blooms white, pink edged, glossy large green foliage.

MERMAID. A Rosecroft seedling duplicating Seashell, but of very compact dwarf habit.

TANAGER. Rosecroft seedling of Seashell, white with orange scarlet edge, very luminous.

ROSABELLE. Another Rosecroft seedling; a beautiful mallow pink; very large bloom.

MATADOR. The latest of the Rosecroft seedlings which we hope may fill the call for a brilliant light red with green foliage.

BIJOU DE JARDIN. The smallest of all double red; delightful for favors in thumb pots.

## A Separate Seed and Tuber List Published Each Season.

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# BEGONIA CULTURAL DIRECTIONS

### SOIL

LEAF MOLD is the best foundation for a Begonia compost, this should be well rotted not merely dried leaves, and be used, except for seed, in a rather coarse condition; to half of this, add one-quarter sandy loam, one-quarter cow manure, with a sprinkling of bone meal and fine charcoal. Begonias will grow in many kinds of soil but experience has proven this mixture.

Do not use any material that has even a suspicion of alkali, nor soil that has been persistently irrigated.

### WATER

For Begonias there is no real substitute for RAIN WATER. It is essential to have a soft water, especially for seed.

### SEED SOWING AND CARE OF SEEDLINGS

Seed of Tuberous should be planted early in the year, though good results are possible with May sowing. Other sorts at any time, depending on the facilities for care.

We have found leaf mold the best soil for seed. Sift this through a medium fine screen using the coarser part on the bottom of a shallow seed pan, place the fine material on top of this, thoroughly soak with boiling water to sterilize, baking is also effective. When cool, firm and level, spread the seed, mixed with ten times its bulk of fine dry soil, evenly over the surface. The pan is then covered with a sheet of glass and kept in the dark at a temperature around 65 Fahr. till the seed sprouts when it must be gradually brought to the light, but never full sunlight.

Water seed pan by setting in water never quite up to soil level, and leaving there till moisture shows on surface.

After watering sprinkle a little fine dry soil over surface to cover roots of seedlings.

When large enough to handle prick out in similar soil and soak as before.

When crowded, pot or plant out.

Various instruments are recommended for pricking out, we have found nothing better than a small finger nail file.

If seed is started early in the year it is helpful to take the chill off water used.

### **HANDLING TUBERS**

These are available in the dry state from mid-December till the end of February. They sprout early in Southern California.

Begonia tubers are more like a round saucer shaped potato than a bulb. The top is the depressed side. To start them, put to half their depth in leaf mold, sand or moss, we prefer the first, give them a good wetting and keep in shaded location in moderate temperature till they sprout, before they do, keep on dry side.

When well growing, pot in the Begonia compost with crown barely covered, water thoroughly by setting pot in water till moisture shows on surface and then not again till well established. Start with a small pot, shifting on as required. A large tuber will finally ask for an eight-inch size. Keep in strong light but not direct sunlight. When in full growth water freely. Most tuberous Begonias unfortunately require staking, do this before it seems necessary. Pinch off the first blooms and keep off seedpods for best development..

A good fertilizer is Floranid used as directed. Ordinary washing Ammonia a teaspoonful to a gallon of water is also useful. No fertilizer often than once in four waterings and never on a dry plant.

### **A FEW PLANTING POINTERS**

If plants arrive in a dry condition, soak the roots overnight.

When potting up, soak thoroughly then give no more water till almost dry.

Begonias should not be planted any deeper than up to the crown and they should be on a rise rather than in a hole, the water must drain away from the crown.

Begonias generally want at least half shade and won't stand for wind.

The roots of Begonias are many, small and fine, and no digging should be done round them, all fertilizing material should be applied on the top of the ground.

Begonias make their new above the old roots which asks for a periodic building up of their soil.

Almost all Begonias are benefited by being pruned or pinched back. The tallest growers can be made of medium height and bushy by training.

With few exceptions (such as the winter blooming class Lorraine, etc.) Begonias like temperate rather than warm conditions, between sixty and seventy is ideal, they also like a moist atmosphere and when grown indoors this should be remembered.

Begonias in pots should have the pots plunged in the ground or protected in some manner to keep them cool and moist. A larger vessel with moist moss in the space around is good.

Do not use potting soil in a dry state.

Aphis are always to be feared. Spray at the first signs of an attack, such as curling leaf or ant activity, with Black Leaf 40. This in combination with Volck is also good for red spider and mealy bug.